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Paper No. 4

Amendment A

Amend/H
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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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MAY 23 2003

In re the application of:

Schroder et al

Technology Center 2100

Serial No. 09/316,905

Art Unit: 2141

Filed: May 21, 1999

Examiner: Willett, S. F.

For: IN METHODS OF INTERCONNECTED ROUTER NODES FOR ROUTING DATA TRAFFIC, A METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR IMPERCEPTIBLY UPGRADING ROUTER NODE SOFTWARE AND THE LIKE WITHOUT TRAFFIC INTERRUPTION

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Replying to the Office final communication of February 28, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend independent claims 1 and 6 as follows:

1. (Amended) In a network data multiple routing system comprised of a plurality of interconnectable router nodes, each controlled by software processing and management information for enabling data routing along a predetermined path of each of the plurality of router nodes, a method of revising and upgrading the software information in one of such preselected router nodes along said paths for each of the multiple routers, that comprises, continuing the data routing along said path with original software information controlling said one router node; during such continued routing, preparing new software information at said one node from said original software information and including revisions and upgrades; and, after such preparing of the new software information, swapping the same for the original software information in said one node during the continuing of the data routing along said path without interruption and even if no alternative router paths are available in the network,